

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 13, lines 1-11 with the following amended paragraph, marked to show the changes made:

When engaging the corresponding drain to flush a bank of vials, preferably the mobile tube 500 slides over the corresponding drain such that the mobile tube 500 and the drain act as a single unit. Alternatively, as illustrated in Figure 9 the waste tube system ~~530~~ 930 includes a mobile tube ~~520~~ 920 which engages the corresponding drain by positioning itself directly below the drain and then sealing against the drain without sliding over the drain. The mobile tube ~~520~~ 920 includes a drain seal ~~540~~ 940 positioned on top of the mobile tube ~~520~~ 920. In this embodiment, during a flushing operation, the mobile tube ~~520~~ 920 is not locked to the corresponding drain. In the event that this drain is accidentally rotated while the mobile waste tube ~~520~~ 920 is engaged with the drain, the drain and mobile tube ~~500~~ 920 of the synthesizer 100 will simply disengage and will not be damaged. If this occurs while material is being flushed from a bank of vials, any spillage from the drain is contained within the chamber bowl 400.